



Please replace paragraph on Page 3, lines 10-19 with the following

paragraph:

A₁ Referring to Figure 1 the handle device 10 can be seen to be a continuous piece of material with two distinct regions 16 and 18, later described. A first end 26 of the handle device 10, includes a boss 12. A second end 22 of the handle device 10 includes a boss receiving recess 14. The material from which the handle device 10 is manufactured from allows for enough flexibility to enable a user to bias the first end 26 relative to the second end 22. By moving the first end 26 in the direction of arrow A and the second end 22 in the direction of arrow B, the boss 12 may be removed from or moved into the boss receiving recess 14. The design of the handle device 10 and the properties of the material are such that when the handle device 10 is in the unlocked position, a gap between the first end 26 and the second end 22 of the handle device is formed, to insert or remove the loop handles of bags between the first end 26 and the second end 22.

Please replace paragraph beginning on Page 3, line 20 and ending on Page 4, line 10 with the following paragraph:

A₂ With continuing reference to Figure 1 and further reference to Figure 2, the locked handle device 10 may be described. When the boss 12 is received in the boss receiving recess 14, the handle device is locked. When the handle device 10 is in the locked position, both regions 16 and 18 of the handle device 10 are fully enclosed and more definitely circumscribed. The hand region 16 allows for the user to place his hand in the handle device 10, for carrying articles. Finger indentations 28 are formed in the upper portion of the handle device 10 in the hand region 16, providing additional

RECEIVED



comfort during use. Furthermore, the shoulders 24 are also abuttingly engaged when the handle device 10 is in the locked position. The shoulders 24, when abutted form the bottom portion of the hand region 16. Loop handles 30, of bags may be placed in the article carrying region 18, as shown in Figure 4. The boss 12 is then placed within the boss receiving recess 14 thus locking the handle device 10 closed. The article carrying region 18 is also closed.

Please replace paragraph on Page 4, lines 11-18 with the following paragraph:

A₃ Turning reference to Figures 1 and 3, the handle device 10 while open may be examined. From the closed position the first end 26 may be moved in the direction of arrow A and the second end 22 may be moved in the direction of arrow B to allow for the handle device 10 to be opened and more particularly directly opening the hand region 16. In doing this, the shoulders 24 are also separated thus opening the article carrying region 18. In the open position, loop handles of bags may be introduced to or removed from the article carrying region 18. Once loop handles 30 are introduced into the article carrying region 18, as seen in Figure 4, the handle device 10 may then be re-closed, as in Figure 2, following the reverse procedure outlined above.

Please replace paragraph on Page 4, lines 19-23 with the following paragraph:

A₄ As previously mentioned, the device 10 is of a one piece monolithic structure which can be fabricated by well known plastic injection molding technology. If desired, a suitable name, logo, or advertising indicia can be molded directly on the device 10 adjacent the boss 12 and boss receiving recess 14.

RECEIVED

AUG 27 2001



Please delete the Abstract Section of the specification and replace it with the following abstract in clean form. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Specification Amendments showing a marked up version of the previous version of the Abstract Section.

A5 The present invention discloses a handle device which allows ease of carrying several bags with loop handles. The present invention allows a user to place the loop handles of bags in the handle device and then lock the device to secure the loop handles within the confines of the handle device.

RECEIVED

AUG 27 2001

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 3 and 4-6 in accordance with the following rewritten claims in clean form. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Claim Amendments showing a marked up version of each amended claim.

A6 1. (AMENDED) A semi-rigid, handle device of monolithic structure for carrying articles comprising:

a single member having a first and second end formed to enclose a hand loop for inserting a hand and a separate article loop for enclosing articles;

said hand loop containing a locking means for changeably interlocking said first and second ends of said member, said locking means being changeable from a locked position to an opened position and back again;

said article loop disposed adjacent to said hand loop; and